

**CLAIMS**

1. A method of customizing performance of a browser for a given network connection of a user, comprising the steps of:  
upon a browser event, issuing a request to a benchmarking server;  
returning given data from a session between the benchmarking server and the browser;  
using the given data to calculate connection speed data; and  
passing the connection speed data in a client request to a web server.
2. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the connection speed data is passed in a header of the client request.
3. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the request to a benchmarking server is a security certificate.
4. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the given data includes a test file.
5. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the given data includes the size of the test file.

6. The method as described in Claim 5 further including generating a start time stamp of when the given data is sent.

7. The method as described in Claim 6 wherein the start time stamp is generated by the benchmarking server.

8. The method as described in Claim 6 further including generating an end time stamp of when the given data is received by the user.

9. The method as described in Claim 8 wherein the start and end time stamps are used to calculate connection speed data.

10. The method as described in Claim 8 wherein the size of the test file is used to calculate connection speed data.

11. The method as described in Claim 1 further including calculating the test file size at the browser after returning the given data from the benchmarking server to the browser.

12. The method as described in Claim 1 further including defining a variable to be given the value of the connection speed.

13. A method of serving a page from a server, comprising:  
upon a browser event, issuing a request to a benchmarking  
server;

returning given data from the benchmarking server to the  
browser;

using the given data to calculate connection speed data;  
passing the connection speed data in a client request to a  
server; and

returning a given page conforming to the connection speed  
data by the server.

14. The method as described in Claim 13 wherein the  
connection speed data is passed in a cookie associated with a  
client request.

15. The method as described in Claim 13 wherein the given  
data includes a time stamp of when the given data is sent.

16. The method as described in Claim 13 wherein the passing  
of the connection speed data in a client request further includes  
passing a variable having the value of the connection speed.

17. A browser computer program product in a computer  
readable medium, comprising:  
code for issuing a request to a benchmarking server;

code responsive to given data returned from the benchmarking server for calculating connection speed data; and

code for inserting the connection speed data in a client request to a web server.

18. The browser of Claim 17 further including code for defining a variable having a value equal to the connection speed data.

19. The browser of Claim 17 wherein the given data returned from the benchmarking server includes a time stamp of when the data was sent.

20. The browser of Claim 17 further code for defining a time stamp of when the given data was received by the browser.

21. A web server computer program product in a computer readable medium comprising:

code for parsing a client request from a browser for connection speed data;

code responsive to finding connection speed data for selecting an appropriate web page to the browser; and

code responsive to an absence of connection speed data for redirecting the browser to a benchmarking server.

22. The web server as recited in claim 21, further comprising code for collecting connection speed data from a plurality of clients for building a database of connection speed data of clients of the web server.

23. A benchmarking server computer program product in a computer readable medium, comprising:

code for receiving a request for benchmarking a browser at a client;

code for benchmarking the client; and

code for sending data relating to connection speed of the client to be stored at the client.

24. The benchmarking server as recited in claim 23, further comprising:

code for receiving a redirect request from a web server; and

code for redirecting the client to the web server once benchmarking is complete.

25. A browser system including memory and processor, comprising:

means for issuing a request to a benchmarking server;

means responsive to given data returned from the benchmarking server for calculating connection speed data; and

means for inserting the connection speed data in a client request to a web server.

**26.** A web server system including processor and memory, comprising:

means for parsing a client request from a browser for connection speed data;

means responsive to finding connection speed data for selecting an appropriate web page to the browser; and

means responsive to an absence of connection speed data for redirecting the browser to a benchmarking server.

**27.** The web server as recited in claim **26**, further comprising means for collecting connection speed data from a plurality of clients for building a database of connection speed data of clients of the web server.

**28.** A benchmarking server system, comprising:

means for receiving a request for benchmarking a browser at a client;

means for benchmarking the client; and

means for sending data relating to connection speed of the client to be stored at the client.

29. The benchmarking server as recited in claim 28, further comprising:

means for receiving a redirect request from a web server;

and

means for redirecting the client to the web server once benchmarking is complete.